

EXHIBIT 5 HVT  
DATE 1-16-09  
HB 29

**Testimony on HB29**  
**Mary Millin**  
**January 16, 2009**

My name is Mary Millin from Hamilton, MT. I am transportation dependent which is the main reason I am not able to testify in person today. I am asking you to vote yes on this bill. The money in question was originally designated for transportation funding for people like myself. We have a good transportation provider in Ravalli County, the BitterRoot Bus. They do the best they can with the funding they have available. However, it is not adequate to provide the kind of transportation I need.

For example, I am presently working 20 hours per week. Currently, the operating hours of Bitterroot Bus are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. With the drivers beginning their shift at 8 a.m., the earliest they can pick me up is 8:30 a.m., putting me to work around 9:00 a.m. Then, because the driver needs to end his shift by 5 p.m., I need to begin my commute home by 4:00 p.m. at the latest. In other words, I would have no means to get back and forth to an 8am to 5pm / 40 hour per week job. Even now on the days I work I can not stop to do any shopping on my way home because the bus does not run long enough hours. I have to make special arrangements any way I can just to do my grocery shopping. I have a membership to the local gym, but have no public transit available to get there.

If the TransAde money was replaced to the original designated amount or even increased, my local provider may be able to expand their hours of operation and provide me with better services. Thank you for your attention. Please support HB-29 and increased funding for public transit for seniors & individuals with disabilities.